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"Voice of the Western Slope, since 1953"
A coalition of counties, communities, businesses & individuals

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JUL 23 2002

February 12, 2002

The Honorable Magalie Roman Salas
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.-Portals
Washington, D. C. 20554

WC DOCKET NO. 02-189

Dear Ms. Salas:


On behalf of the membership of CLUB 20, I am writing to you to express our full support for the application being made by Qwest to enter the long distance service market in Colorado. CLUB 20 represents the interests of twenty western Colorado counties in Denver and Washington. We have over 800 members from all aspects of business, chambers of commerce, Indian nations, local governments and interested individuals. Competitive telecommunications services including access to long distance carriers are high on our members priority list.

Two years ago, the CLUB 20 Board of Directors adopted a policy resolution in support of enhanced open competition in services across western Colorado. We are a mountainous area with about 65% of the land in public land designations managed by the Federal Government. Our business and local government members are seeking competitive long distance services. We are concerned that that competition will not be available to assist us in recruiting new business and expanding existing business that we so desperately need.

CLUB 20 has closely followed the progress of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission during the past two and a half years in monitoring Qwest to assure compliance with the 1996 Telecommunications Act. It is time to move forward to the next step that rural western Colorado so desperately needs – competitive long distance service, which we believe Qwest can provide our communities. We hope the FCC will act on this application in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please feel free to contact me if there is any way we can assist you.

Sincerely,


Stan Broome
President